

# THE INDIANAPOLIS LEADER.

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VOL. I.

INDIANAPOLIS, IND., SATURDAY, APRIL 24, 1880.

NO. 37.

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## THE INDIANAPOLIS LEADER.

### REPUBLICAN NOMINATIONS.

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Coroner—ALLISON MAXWELL, M. D.

"Indianapolis Leader," "Brother."  
Otey of the Argus, if you please, not Ind-Leader.

It is claimed that the nomination of Gen. Grant at Chicago, will cause a split in the Republican party, and the nomination of an Independent-Republican ticket.

The Herald of Kansas complains that The Leader is not received by it regularly. We cannot account for this. We have mailed a copy of The Leader to the Herald every week. Tackle your P. M., and if that does not fetch The Leader, notify us. In this connection, we take occasion to remark that, for about the space of three months, The Leader has been deprived of the good influences of the Christian Recorder. Why is this thus, Bro. Tanner?

We desire to call the special attention of the reading public, our colored exchanges and newspapers generally, to our article on this page, calling for organized and definite action upon the recent outrage on Cadet J. C. Whittaker, at West Point. Let it be placed before the colored people everywhere, so that those who go to Chicago in June may know something positive and to the point respecting this crowning infamy of West Point thugs, will be expected from them.

It is certainly gratifying to sensible and reasonable people all over the country to know that Denis Kearney, the irrepressible Irish agitator, has at last received his just reward at the hands of a San Francisco court, and is now serving out a six month's sentence, at hard labor and close confinement. There is something in the fate of this demagogue akin to poetic justice—that is, if there is any poetry in a six month's term at hard labor in penitentiary. A naturalized foreigner himself, he assumed a sort of dictatorship over the vicious hoodlum classes in the larger California cities, and sought to drive away other foreigners because, forsooth, they were more industrious, sober, and economical than he and his followers, and consequently more sought after by those who employ labor. But instead of driving away the peaceful and offensive Mongolian, he is himself driven to jail as a penalty for his disorderly and riotous conduct. The mills of the gods grind slowly, but nevertheless surely.

The Conservative Tory Ministry in England, headed by Benjamin Disraeli, the novelist, latterly known as the Earl of Beaconsfield, has been routed, horse, foot and dragon, in the parliamentary elections, now closed. Disraeli has been doing business in a somewhat high-handed manner for the last few years, but he now realizes the fact that he has been walking around over Europe and the East on stilts of a very delicate structure—as weak, in fact, as some of the characters in his brilliant fiction. Were it not for his age, however, "Dizzy" would quite likely be heard from again soon; but as he has about lived out his allotted three-score-and ten, he has probably called his last turn in the British Governmental policy. The Liberal party, under Gladstone, which now comes into power, has a large majority over all other parties and factions combined, and will doubtless hold the reins of Government for a considerable period. England is now in the hands of statesmen of foresight and wisdom, and who, it is to be sincerely hoped, will not waste the energies and revenue of the "best monarchy the world ever saw," in carrying on useless and destructive wars with foreign and distant people without benefit to either party.

The agony is over for the time with New York Democrats. Tammany and A (anti)-Tammany have had their say. Both factions held State Conventions, and each convention adopted a "platform" and sent delegations to Cincinnati. The Tammanyites denounced Til-

den, lauded Seymour, and declared their willingness to support any "worthy representative Democrats," nominated for President and Vice President. Tilden had an overwhelming majority in the Anti-Tammany convention, and carried things with a high hand.

In their platform they re-echoed their "reform" yawn, and supplemented it with the "fraud" whine, extolling the virtues of old "unsubstantiated" and bewailing the political misfortunes that cloud the evening of his life. Though the delegation to Cincinnati is uninstructed, it is solid for Tilden, and the action of the convention sweeps away all doubts as to his candidacy. Samuel Jones Tilden is a candidate. He wants the nomination, and he will no doubt get it.

### ACTION ON THE WEST POINT OUTRAGE.

The brutal and inhuman outrage upon Cadet Johnson C. Whittaker at West Point, and the impudent, barefaced, villainous attempt of the authorities in charge at the Military Academy to exculpate the cowardly ruffians who committed the vile deed and throw the odium of having mutilated himself for selfish reasons upon the outraged cadet, calls loudly for some official representative action at the hands of the colored people of this country. We need to speak out in language too plain to be misunderstood our burning indignation at the diabolical savagery committed upon Cadet Whittaker, and through him upon the whole Negro race. We ought to demand in no uncertain tone that punishment, stern and unrelenting, be inflicted on the guilty wretches who perpetrated this crime. Furthermore, we ought to demand that the whole military academy shall undergo a radical change in management, discipline, and persons in authority.

The direction given to the investigation now going on there by Gen. Schofield and those in command under him, shows that the official control of the Academy is in the hands of the same aristocratic, Negro-hating, secession-sympathizing, unrepentant gang which controlled it previous to the beginning of the late war. The frequent and dangerous hazing riots which occur there right under the nose of the commander of the post, is proof positive that the discipline is lax, slovenly, and totally inadequate to the protection of the weaker cadets upon whom the bullies are disposed to trample. If proper discipline in the army secures equal rights to all soldiers, why can not proper discipline at West Point secure equal rights and protection to all cadets? It could if the proper officers were there and would administer it properly.

We must take action on this dastardly outrage at as early a date as possible, and let the world know that we feel keenly the indignity that has been offered to our race. There is to be no national convention or representative meeting of colored people this spring or summer, so far as we know. In our judgment, therefore, the Republican National Convention, at Chicago in June, will be an opportune moment to express ourselves. A large number of representative colored men will be there from all parts of the country, in attendance upon the deliberations of the convention; and it will be an easy matter for them to meet a day or so before the assembling of the convention, and give expression to their feelings in appropriate resolutions. What have the thinking men of our race to say to this suggestion? What has the "Negro Press" to say upon the question? Our columns are open to all who may desire to express themselves briefly.

**"COLLOSSAL CHEEK."**  
His Royal Impudence, Major General Schofield, has issued an order congratulating the cadets at West Point on the dignified manner in which they have borne the "indignities" heaped upon them by ill-bred people who wish to interfere with their favorite sport of slitting people's ears, "like they do hogs down South."

In our first issue after this unfortunate affair came to light, we said that Gen. Schofield, if not an accomplice in the outrage on Whittaker, was at least guilty of criminal conduct in attempting to cover up the crime. This last crowning act of impudence confirms the worst that we have said or intimated in regard to Schofield. Let

the inquisitorial force instituted to persecute Whittaker and shield the guilty cadets, or officers, or both, be abolished, and let Schofield and West Point be put on trial, and "let no guilty man escape."

### THE NEED OF EDUCATED LEADERS.

The following article is clipped from the National Monitor, the organ of the colored Baptist church of the United States, published in New York. We commend it to the careful and thoughtful consideration of our readers. The pulpit can be made a powerful engine in the education and elevation of the race, if only honest, intelligent men are permitted to occupy it. But how often do we find at the head of a great church an ignorant, lying, scheming, treacherous rascal whose only ambition is gain, and whose only love is for himself, and who would sacrifice every interest of the race in order to strengthen and perpetuate his own pernicious power and influence. We know many good men of limited education who are doing a world of good as ministers. They are honest and conscientious, and in their intercourse with the men of the world they practice those virtues of the heart which they preach. Far be from us to say one word in disparagement of them or the noble work they are doing for humanity. Our crusade is against the sly, unscrupulous schemer, who considers honesty a fiction, education a foe, and educated men barbarian usurpers. Such ministers have been and are the bane of the race. They are not confined to the colored people of the South, however. There is scarcely a city in the land in which one or more may not be found. Happily for the race the influence of this class is waning before the rising sun of intelligence. With the school, the press, the rostrum and the intelligence of the pulpit, church and people against them, these leeches on the body politic, libels on honesty, intelligence and leadership will be driven from the places they have usurped into the obscurity and contempt which their crimes and characters merit. Lead on brother Monitor, you will be solidly backed by press and people.

As the success of an army depends on the skill and bravery of the commanding general, so the success of the colored people of the South depends on the intellectual and moral fitness of their leaders in educational, political, ecclesiastical and social affairs. Their teachers and leaders should be thoroughly educated. If their preachers are unlearned in temporal things, it is reasonable to doubt their professed knowledge of spiritual things. If they do not practice virtue, it is reasonable to charge them with hypocrisy if they preach virtue. If the political leader be not an upright man, it is unsafe to trust him on account of his color or his professed political faith.

It is true that the colored people have made astonishing progress since the abolition of slavery, but if their leaders had been thoroughly educated and upright men, their progress would have been still more amazing. They have advanced by reason of an inherent force in spite of bad leadership. The leadership of the school and press is superior to that of the pulpit. It is true that we have a number of learned colored divines, but they are not a hundredth part of what is demanded. We have men filling metropolitan pulpits that do not understand the first principles of their mother tongue, and know no more of natural, intellectual and moral philosophy than if no such science existed. They can take a text and bawl and groan and with a peculiar aptitude work up the emotional nature of their uneducated hearers, but they cannot teach. What we need as a people is to be taught. We need teachers in the school, in the pulpit and teachers in every department of social action till we shall see the truth and can give a reason for the hope that is within us.

### THE GUBERNATORIAL NOMINATION.

The nomination of General Abel D. Streight for Governor now seems a foregone conclusion. The soldiers, the colored people, the independents, and the stalwarts are enthusiastic for General Streight. General Streight's friends do not disparage the claims and merits of the other candidates Generals Coburn, Shackelford, Heilman and others mentioned are all excellent men whom we would gladly support.

The general sentiment of the Republicans of the State, however, is in favor of General Streight's nomination, because it is believed his name would arouse an enthusiasm among the people that would stamp victory on our banners in November. The opposition to his nomination by the Indianapolis Journal is unreasonable, unfair and senseless. General Streight's honesty, ability and purity of character has never been doubted by anyone who knows him. The Journal claims to be the

organ of the Republican party of the State, but it shows a lamentable want of the qualities requisite to true leadership, by commencing a personal fight against such an excellent and popular Republican as General Streight.

General Streight will be nominated as certainly as the convention assembles and it will be a little humiliating for the Journal to swallow its words, as it will have to do and join in the general "Hurrah for Streight and victory." While the lamp yet holds out to burn we advise the Journal to fall in on the popular side.

### For Representative.

(Sunday Morning Call.)  
If the colored Republicans of this city and county wish to honor themselves, they will fix upon the Hon. R. B. Bagby as their candidate for Representative, and insist upon his nomination. He is the most able colored man we know of.

### Editorial Chaff.

Denis Kearney has "gone"—to the workhouse.

O, for one fond moment with Tilden's barrel minus the head!

O wad some giftie gie us, [candidates] to see our "boom" as it rises and falls.

Where to find your dog when he is missing? In your morning sausage.

The Journal does not seem to favor a Streight Republican for Governor.

Slowly but surely Dennis Kearney wends his way skyward, via the penitentiary and the gallows.

If death doesn't end all, what's the use of dying? If death does end all, what's the use of living?

The Earl of Beaconsfield is reported quite "dizzy" since the result of the English elections became known.

The Gray [hint] about the Democratic canvass for the gubernatorial nomination is what makes Landers cuss.

At Syracuse, this week, Mr. Tilden withdrew; that is, he withdrew the Anti-Tilden delegates from his convention.

The Democratic party will be beaten so badly in the presidential election that pulp will be abundant after November.

Hello, there, Mr. Pelton. What are you going to do with that new system of cipher you have in your inside coat pocket?

The subject of George R. Wendling's new lecture is, "If a Man Die Shall He Live Again?" Most assuredly—in the memory of his creditors.

The almond eyed sons of Confucius pull down their vest and wipe off their chin merrily now, as they drink a health to Kearney and other "Lish Melican" agitators.

It has been suggested that the difficulties between England and Zululand might be amicably settled by the marriage of Widow Victoria and King Cetewayo.

The Devil certainly has a lake, but whether it contains burning fire, or not, is an open question to be decided by future occupants. It is in northern Dakota.

It would interest the political statistician to know just exactly how many times ex-Governor Tilden has been withdrawn from the Presidential race by his Democratic enemies.

Shakespeare says there are three things that can not be depended upon, namely: a horse's health, a boy's love, and a Cyprian's oath. He might have added, also, a politician's promise.

Anti-Tilden Democrats withdraw Mr. Tilden about every other day, but the next day brings them the joyless intelligence that though slightly disfigured, Uncle Sammy is still in the ring.

Why don't some railway company controlled by Democrats place Sam Tilden at its head, thus gratifying his itching palm presidential honors, and at the same time get him out of the way of Hendricks and the rest of the boys?

If "instructions" will carry a man through, we don't care whether "Death Ends All" or not. When we get ready to shuffle off this mortal coil, we will unanimously "instruct" in favor of admitting our spiritual essence through the "pearly gates of the New Jerusalem," and, of course, we will go through, just like greased lightning.—Kentucky Paper.

His excellency, Governor Homespun Blue Jeans has organized a temperance society, of which he is chief cook and bottle washer. A convicted burglar or murderer has only to sign the pledge to secure his release. If a black man, however, is sent to the penitentiary for marrying a white woman, he must serve out his full term. Governor H. B. J. is a Democrat.

Colonel Ingersoll's latest is, what shall I do to be saved? Well, although we have been redeemed, regenerated, saved, as it were, yet we can not tell the Colonel exactly what he will be required to do, in order to be "washed in the blood of the Lamb." Our confessor, however, suggests that if the Colonel "will only repent, believe and be baptized," he will be all hunkydori.

The question of license or no license was recently submitted to the qualified voters of a town in Wyoming. Women suffrage prevails in that territory and the marriageable female voters under the mistaken apprehension that the question had reference to matrimonial instead of saloon license, carried it, true to form, by a landslide.

The saloonists are happy.

It is Well.

(Classical Commercial.)

It is well for truth and justice that Congress interfered in the investigation of the West Point outrage. The public will not forget that upon the announcement of it the officers, from General Schofield down, jumped to the conclusion that Cadet Whittaker had been his own limbs and mutilated himself to escape failure at the examination. Nor will it be likely to forget that the lad lived an isolated life, cut off not only by the white cadets, but by the professors, except when he encountered them on duty in the classroom. West Point is on trial quite as much as Cadet Whittaker.

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### THE REV. DR. FULTON'S ANECDOTE.

Col. Fred. Grant's Briefly Expressed Opinion of Colored Cadets.

(New York Sun.)

The Rev. Justin D. Fulton took the case of Cadet Whittaker for the theme of his sermon, in the Brooklyn Rink, yesterday morning. He spoke altogether on the assumption that Whittaker had met his injuries at the hands of others, and made no reference to the theory that the cadet had himself caused his injuries. In the course of his sermon Dr. Fulton recounted the stories of the three principal colored cadets of West Point. He said that on one occasion Gen. Grant was visiting the philanthropist Daniel Clark of Hartford, who was patron of Cadet Smith, the colored boy. Gen. Grant said:

"Don't take him away at present; the battle might just as well be fought now as at any other time."

Fred. Grant, who was present at the interview, said: "The time hasn't come for sending niggers to West Point."

"Well," said Mr. Clark, "if the time has come to elect them Senators and to have them sit by the side of our Congressmen, think it is time to protect them at West Point."

Then Fred. Grant answered, in the presence of his father: "No d—d nigger will ever graduate from West Point."

### Colored Men Lynch a White Man.

(Louisville Bulletin.)

A novel lynching case occurred near Warren, Va., last Saturday night, not only in the manner of punishment, but the lynching party were colored, and their victim a white man. It seems that Aaron Cordell, a well-to-do colored man, left the one morning to be gone several days. Last night Peter Atwood, a white man, went to the house, it seems, by appointment with the unfaithful wife. A party of colored men acquainting themselves with the existing facts, went to the house, demanded admittance, and, with rope in hand, commanded the man to follow them. They took him to a tree and commenced tying his hands. He showed great signs of terror, and began pleading for his life, when one of them said: "We will not be his enemy, you as the white men are on us under similar circumstances, but we are certainly going to hang you, and then turning the poor devil end for end, tied his feet together and swung him between earth and Heaven, by his heels. This morning William Cole, an old colored man, passing by saw the man hanging head downward, and to all appearance dead. He spoke to him, but received no reply, whereupon he cut him down. The victim, upon touching the ground regained his feet and dashed off through the woods. The object of the lynching was accomplished, and he has fled from the county a disgraced man.

### Give It Up.

(Louisiana.)

The Herald of Kansas, supports Hon. James G. Blaine for the Presidency. Kansas Republican State Convention was controlled by Blaine men, who elected a delegation and endorsed Mr. Blaine, and yet we find the following paragraphs in the Herald:

"The Convention met. The Convention adjourned. The colored voters were unnumbered." There's a day of reckoning.

"The thousands of colored voters in Kansas owe the State Convention a debt of gratitude."

"One colored delegate to the Chicago Convention—W. B. Townsend—and he is the shape of an alternate. Let every colored voter in the State remember this."

In Indiana the Blaine men had control of the convention and elected a solid white delegation. In both these States the colored voters are an important political factor. Will the colored papers advocating the nomination of Mr. Blaine please explain why this is thus?